

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 03993 211756Z
ACTION ARA-14

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, DR
SUBJECT: SUPREME COURT REJECTS PRD APPEAL

1. THE SUPREME COURT LAST NIGHT (JULY 20) DECLARED ITSELF INCOMPETENT TO RULE ON AN APPEAL BY THE PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO (PRD) TO OVERTURN THE JULY 7 DECISION OF THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE) GIVING CONTROL OF THE NEXT SENATE TO THE PARTIDO REFORMISTA (PR) OF OUTGOING PRESIDENT BALAGUER.

2. THE PRD HAD PETITIONED THE COURT TO DECLARE UNCONSTITUTIONAL THAT PORTION OF THE JCE'S DECISION WHICH REVERSED THE PROVISIONAL VOTE COUNT IN FOUR PROVINCES WHERE PRD CANDIDATES HAD WON SENATE SEATS IN THE MAY 16 ELECTION. THE JCE ARBITRARILY DECLARED THE PR CANDIDATES THE WINNER BY VIRTUE OF NON-EXISTENT VOTES. THE RULING GIVES BALAGUER'S PARTY A 16-11 MAJORITY IN THE UPPER HOUSE.

3. THE HIGH COURT DECLARED IT HAS NO LEGAL ATTRIBUTES TO RULE ON THE PARTY'S APPEAL. APPARENTLY THE COURT OF LAST RESORT, UNLESS THE PARTY'S LAWYERS CAN COME UP WITH SOME OTHER LEGAL AVENUE TO PURSUE, THE DECISION UPHOLDS THE JCE'S RULING AGAINST THE PRD.

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Message Attributes

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